

were seriously wounded. Lake County Major Crimes Taskforce investigated the crime and had murder warrants. Detective Rivera then developed an operational plan to take the suspect into custody. The detective used his informant to lure the suspect to a location on July 3, 2007, to discuss doing another robbery. Members of the North Chicago SWAT team arrested the suspect upon his arrival.

Last August Detective Rivera used an informant to infiltrate another armed robbery crew along with an undercover ATF agent. On October 25, 2007, the North Chicago Tactical Narcotics Team, agents from ATF and their SWAT officers as well as Waukegan Net Agents conducted a sting on this crew, arresting four Gangster Disciples and the recovery of a hand gun. All 4 subjects were charged through the United States Attorneys office.

Detective Rivera is truly taking criminals off the streets, making our community safer. Our district is fortunate to have police officers, like the detective, who risk their lives every day. I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring him today.

IN TRIBUTE TO ANTONIO MELONI

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Antonio Meloni, a tireless, energetic and effective civic activist. Antonio Meloni is devoted to his community and his family, and in recognition of his selfless dedication to the well-being of others, he was honored by the Taminent Regular Democratic Club of the Borough of Queens in New York City at its 76th Annual Dinner Dance.

A resident of Astoria for forty-two years, Antonio Meloni has distinguished himself for his outstanding service to the community. He has been a leader in local crime-fighting and neighborhood beautification efforts, working with at-risk youth in the Second Chance Task Force, serving as an instructor in women's self-defense courses, and working to prevent and clean up the urban blight of graffiti. Mr. Meloni has been extraordinarily active in numerous civic organizations, ranging from the Astoria-Long Island City Kiwanis Club; the 114th Precinct Community Council; the local New York City Community Emergency Response Team; the Variety Boys and Girls Club; the Knights of Columbus; the Church of the Immaculate Conception, where he serves as a Minister of Welcome; the Astoria Civic Association, which he currently serves as Vice President; and Queens Community Board 1, on which he has chaired the Public Safety Committee for many years, among many other organizations. Of Antonio Meloni's many accomplishments in service to the community, one of which he is particularly proud is the design and completion of the "Greater Love Than This" memorial to veterans of our nation's armed forces, a monument that is located next to the existing World War I Memorial in Astoria Park. In recognition of his many civic contributions, Mr. Meloni has been honored over the years by former New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, the New York State Crime Prevention Coalition, the New York City

Council, and numerous community organizations.

Next year will mark two full decades of distinguished service by Antonio Meloni as Executive Director of Immigration Advocacy Services. In this capacity, he has developed and managed countless worthwhile initiatives that have provided essential services to new arrivals to our nation's greatest city. While devoting his time and attention to this incredible range of activities, Antonio Meloni has also remained devoted to his beloved family, including his wife Denise and his two children Michael and Angela.

In being honored by the Taminent Regular Democratic Club, Antonio Meloni's achievements were recognized by one of the largest and most vibrant political and civic organizations in our nation's greatest city. The Taminent Club represents voters in the neighborhoods of Astoria and Long Island City in the New York State Assembly's 36th District and is led by its able District Leaders, the Honorable Gloria DeMarco Aloise and the Honorable George Onorato, a distinguished New York State Senator. The Taminent Club proudly carries the banner of the world's oldest political party in one of the most diverse counties in the United States of America. Borough of Queens.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing the outstanding contributions to our cultural and civic life made by Antonio Meloni.

A TRIBUTE TO THE MODELL FAMILY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and honor the work and accomplishments of the Modell family. The Modell family migrated from Russia in the 1870s settling on the Lower East Side of New York City. They soon began peddling clothing, jewelry, and other odds and ends from a pushcart.

George Modell opened a store at 79 Cortland Street in 1893. The business moved to Nassau Street during the 1930s when George's son Louis joined and established their pawnbroking business. Louis successfully expanded and assumed leadership of the company during World War II. In 1956, Gerald, Louis' eldest son had completed his studies at Columbia University and was commissioned into the army as an officer. In 1959, he joined the Modell Jewelry & Pawnbroker business.

Gerald Modell opened a second location in 1960 on West 47th Street, in the heart of the "Diamond District," where Modell began to extend financing to the diamond and jewelry industry. In 1965, Gerald expanded by starting a diamond importing company operating in Antwerp, Tel Aviv, and Bombay.

Gerald Modell's son Eric graduated from the University of Virginia's McIntire School of Commerce in 1997. After a 3-year career as a management consultant at PricewaterhouseCoopers, Eric joined the family business in 2000. Today Eric is the executive vice president and is committed to expanding the business even further.

Gerald Modell has been associated with the creation and operation of many charitable and philanthropic causes, mostly in the medical field. He currently serves on an Advisory Board at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital in New York City and is the founder and former vice president of the Mental Illness Foundation.

Today the Modells have six pawnshop locations in operation throughout New York City: the Diamond District; Gramercy Park; Spanish Harlem; Brooklyn Heights; Brownsville; and Bay Ridge. Annually, Modell makes tens of thousands of loans to the public for their short-term financing needs.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize and thank the Modell family for their nearly 115 years of service to the residents of New York.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the Modell family.

A LETTER FROM GOVERNOR MITCH DANIELS OF INDIANA

HON. MARK E. SOUDER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2007

Mr. SOUDER. Madam Speaker, I wish to submit into the RECORD a letter from Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels expressing his concerns regarding H.R. 2046, the Internet Gambling Regulation and Enforcement Act, which would legalize Internet gambling and undermine the ability of states to make and enforce their own gambling laws. I share Governor Daniel's opposition to this bill, and will fight to make sure H.R. 2046 does not pass the House.

STATE OF INDIANA,
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR,
Indianapolis, Indiana, November 9, 2007.

Re Internet Gambling Regulation and Enforcement Act of 2007 (H.R. 2046)

Hon. HARRY REID,
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

Hon. MITCH MCCONNELL,
Minority Leader, U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,
Minority Leader, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR REID, SENATOR MCCONNELL, SPEAKER PELOSI AND REPRESENTATIVE BOEHNER: As Governor of the State of Indiana, I wish to express my concerns about a bill currently in the U.S. Congress known as the Internet Gambling Regulation and Enforcement Act of 2007 ("H.R. 2046"), which would legalize Internet gambling and undermine the ability of states to make and enforce their own gambling laws.

In contrast with limited, state-regulated forms of gambling such as horse tracks and riverboat casinos, gambling via the Internet is available from virtually any location (e.g., homes, offices, schools) twenty-four hours per day in an anonymous environment. Research and studies have indicated that Internet gambling is more accessible to minors, more attractive to college-age individuals, more susceptible to fraud and other criminal activity, and harder to regulate. These are some of the reasons why Indiana recently updated its gambling laws to specifically prohibit Internet gambling. Using the Internet